

Add the following claim:

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--17. The isolated and purified bacterial reverse transcriptase (RT) of claim 13 which RT has in the following order starting from N- to the C- terminus, a first amino acid sequence of Tyr-Xaa-Asp-Asp, where Xaa is alanine or cysteine, a second sequence of Ser-Xaa<sub>1</sub>-Xaa<sub>2</sub>-Xaa<sub>3</sub>, wherein Xaa<sub>1</sub> is a hydrophobic residue selected from the group consisting of valine, phenylalanine, leucine and isoleucine, Xaa<sub>2</sub> is a polar residue selected from the group consisting of threonine, asparagine, lysine and serine, and Xaa<sub>3</sub> is a hydrophobic residue selected from the group consisting of tryptophan, phenylalanine and alanine, a third amino acid sequence of Asn-Xaa<sub>4</sub>-Xaa<sub>5</sub>, where Xaa<sub>4</sub> is hydrophobic residue selected from the group consisting of alanine, leucine and phenylalanine and Xaa<sub>5</sub> is a hydrophobic residue selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine and isoleucine, and a fourth amino acid sequence of Xaa<sub>6</sub>-Val-Thr-Gly where Xaa<sub>6</sub> is a polar residue selected from the group consisting of arginine, lysine, glutamic acid, glutamine and valine. --

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#### REMARKS

Favorable review is respectfully requested.

#### Rejections Under 35 USC §112

Claims 5-7 have been amended as requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 5-7 has been overcome. It is brought to the Examiner's attention that claim 8 already recites the ID sequences of Figure 14.

#### Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejects claims 1-16 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over either of Inouye et al. U.S. Patent 5,320,958 or 5,434,070, in view of the combination of Rice et al. (July 1993), Xiong et al. (1990) and Hsu et al (April 1992).

1. Rice et al is not prior art. Bert C. Lampson is one of the co-inventors of the subject application; he is also a coauthor of Rice et al. The Rice et al article has counterparts in the subject application. See pages 32 and seq. and Figures 20-21. The subject application benefits

of a filing date of June 30, 1994. The Rice publication was received by the publisher on 19